

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 2-4, 70-73, 75, 80, 82, 84, and 89-91 are pending in the application, with 70, 72, 73, 75, 80, 82, and 89-91 being the independent claims. These changes are believed to meet the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.121, as amended on June 30, 2003, introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based upon the above Amendments and the Remarks submitted on December 15, 2004, the applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections, and that they be withdrawn.

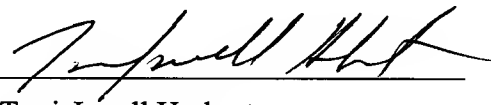
CONCLUSION

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner replace the previously submitted amendment with the foregoing and reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. If the Examiner believes, for any reason that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Response is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

REED SMITH, LLP

By: 

Toni-Junell Herbert

Reg. No. 34,348

Date: 1/14/05

1301 K Street, N.W.
Suite 1100-East Tower
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 414-9200